

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

FROM : C. H. Stanley

SUBJECT: FRANK PORTER GRAHAM
 Defense Manpower Administrator
 U. S. Department of Labor
 Washington, D. C.
 LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

DATE: March 22, 1951

PURPOSE:

FRANK PORTER GRAHAM

To call your attention to the attached newspaper article entitled "A Fighter in the Role of Conciliator" appearing in "The Sunday Star" at Washington, D. C., on March 18, 1951, which stated that Dr. Frank Porter Graham, former President of the University of North Carolina and former U. S. Senator from North Carolina, would return to Washington to assume the position of Defense Manpower Administrator for the Department of Labor. The article describes this position as one to "bring peace between Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson and the labor unions."

BACKGROUND:

Dr. Graham was President of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for approximately 20 years. He was appointed U. S. Senator from North Carolina by Governor W. Kerr Scott of North Carolina in 1949 and was defeated for re-election in the 1950 elections. During his association with the University of North Carolina he was appointed to numerous Federal positions by Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

Bureau files reflect that he has been affiliated with over 25 organizations, some of which are known to be Communist front and infiltrated groups. Among these are the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties and the American League for Peace and Democracy, all cited by the Attorney General as Communist organizations.

(100-23300-2)

The Charlotte Office has had numerous contacts with Dr. Graham in connection with Bureau investigations at Chapel Hill, North Carolina. He has always shown a cooperative attitude and has exhibited a friendly relationship to the Bureau.

(100-23300-12)

FACTS:

In March, 1948, the State Department submitted to the Bureau a loyalty form in connection with Dr. Graham's mission to the United Nations. At this time a review of Bureau files reflected that the Bureau conducted an Internal Security-Hatch Act investigation in 1943, and an Atomic Energy Employee investigation on Dr. Graham in October, 1947. On a Bureau memorandum of August 20, 1947, advising of a request from the Atomic Energy Commission for the investigation of Dr. Graham, the Director's notation appeared "See that investigation is complete and thorough-H."

121-0

Attachment

SE

RECORDED - 49

MAR 31 1951

3

28654 -

The above investigations developed practically the same information and indicated that while Dr. Graham had held membership in organizations which were reported to be Communist infiltrated, there was no evidence of Communist Party membership or affiliation. It was further indicated that Graham became affiliated with these groups for the stated purpose of the organization and not to aid Communist ideologies. A resume of these investigations was incorporated in a memorandum from Mr. R. W. Wall to Mr. D. M. Ladd dated May 26, 1948, with the recommendation that in view of the extensive investigation conducted on Dr. Graham in 1943 and again in 1947, that no loyalty investigation be conducted and that the information developed in the Hatch Act investigation be summarized and returned on the back of the loyalty form. This memorandum bore the notation "O. K. EAT," and this action was taken on June 7, 1948.

Information in Bureau files concerning Dr. Graham has been furnished to numerous outside agencies including the Atomic Energy Commission, the Intelligence Division of the Army, and the White House as well as the Department of Justice.

(116-30356-3-6-12-16) (100-23300-18) (62-31963)

No loyalty form has been recently received on Dr. Graham in connection with his new duties with the Government and no action is contemplated by the Loyalty Section pending receipt of a loyalty form.

ACTION:

None. For your information. It is recommended that in the event a loyalty form is received at the Bureau on Dr. Graham it be handled as the previous one, viz, to incorporate on the back of the form a summary of the information developed in the Hatch Act investigation and return the form to the submitting agency.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]
127 - 286 - 4 - 8

A Fighter in the Role of Conciliator

By Jack Riley

Frank Porter Graham, former president of the University of North Carolina and scrappy ex-Senator, is going back to Washington in the role of peacemaker.

His job is to bring peace between Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson and the labor unions, whose spokesmen stalked out of their mobilization advisory positions in a huff.

Labor Secretary Tobin calls the job defense manpower administrator for the Labor Department, but the duties and authority of that office still must be clarified. Dr. Graham took a title from Robert C. Goodwin, who also headed the Bureau of Economic Security, and apparently he will deal largely through Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, who is Mr. Wilson's all-over director of defense manpower problems. At the same time, he may have a voice in policy making.

His friendly, liberal view toward labor has won the confidence of unions, who prefer him in Mr. Flemming's post. At the same time, he may be the logical choice to placate Mr. Wilson. Labor learned in the "captive mines" case that it can't push Dr. Graham around. When John L. Lewis demanded that all miners join his UMW, Dr. Graham said "No." Such would deprive the minority of miners of their right to work as they wished, he ruled.

Should the impasse between the defense mobilizer and labor continue, friends say the President's warm regard for Dr. Graham assures him an audience at the White House. Some even predict that should Wilson and labor lock horns completely, Dr. Graham will still be around after Mr. Wilson is gone.

Some observers, alarmed at the precarious balance of national security along the hairline where labor and management meet, hailed Dr. Graham as peacemaker. One called it the toughest task of his life.



—AP Photo.

Frank P. Graham.

Certainly the diminutive doctor left Chapel Hill "with no illusions about the toughness of the situation."

His plan of approach was revealed, perhaps, in his serious but simple view of labor mobilization issues. In soft, sympathetic tone he mused:

Public Servant 30 Years

"It will take a lot of time, patience, humility, some understanding on both sides, hard work and a sense of the lateness of the hour and the responsibility of America in her leadership of the free people of the world."

It sounded like the same personal formula Dr. Graham has used often to work magic on labor-management disputes for both Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

Latest proof of its success came last January in his guidance of labor-management negotiations in Alaska, where the Nation's security counts on the speed of defense construction. Alaskan projects were delayed one-third to half of last season for lack of early agreements.

With Dr. Graham carefully and

patiently placating all parties, new agreements were signed almost two months before the expiration of existing contracts. They are expected to avert strikes, slowdowns, lockouts and stoppages.

Alaska's problems were complicated by a natural shortage of skilled labor, by high living costs, woeful lack of family housing, difficult travel and the rigors of isolated camp life. A plague to peace-makers, also, was the problem of pleasing the Defense Department, the Labor Department and numerous military men in Alaska.

When contracts finally were signed, Interior Secretary Chapman voiced his relief thus: "In view of the urgency of the Alaskan defense program, it is no exaggeration to say that every Federal agency concerned, including the Department of Interior, is in his (Graham's) debt."

More than 30 years in public service have found the pint-sized Dr. Graham alternately making peace or doing battle. During 20 years as president of the University of North Carolina he did battle for academic freedom and championed the underdog. As first president of the Consolidated University, he skillfully made peace between the three State institutions which he molded into one.

His liberal views appealed to President Roosevelt, who named him successively as vice chairman of the NRA Consumer Board, chairman of the National Advisory Council to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Security, member of the President's Committee on Education, vice chairman of the National Defense Medication Board and member of the War Labor Board.

President Truman has relied on Dr. Graham to settle an oil industry dispute, to aid in drafting the civil rights program and to represent the United States in arranging a truce in Indonesia.

C-1 THE SUNDAY STAR, Washington, D. C.
SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 1951

ENCLOSURE

121-28654-1